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September 13, 2006

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Beth O'Donnell  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Blvd., PO Box 615  
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SEP 14 2006

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COMMISSION

Re: *Petition of SouthEast Tel., Inc., for Arbitration of Certain Terms and Conditions of Proposed Agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Concerning Interconnection Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Case No. 2006-00316*

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

On behalf of SouthEast Telephone, Inc., this letter responds to the Sept. 5, 2006 letter from Mary K. Keyer of BellSouth.

SouthEast agrees with BellSouth that if SouthEast modifies its positions in the arbitration proceeding, SouthEast should provide notice of any such modifications in advance of the deadline for direct testimony. SouthEast plans to do so. However, BellSouth proposes a deadline of Oct. 9, 2006 for SouthEast to provide such a notice. Given the potentially broad range of issues that may emerge depending on BellSouth's responses to the data requests due on Sept. 29, SouthEast expects that it will need more time to analyze these data and finalize its positions. Thus, SouthEast proposes to provide a notice of any modifications to its arbitration proposals by Oct. 16. This proposed time frame is contingent upon BellSouth's providing complete, timely, and responsive answers to SouthEast's data requests. SouthEast would not object to modifying the deadlines for direct testimony and other scheduled filings to the extent that BellSouth believes it needs additional time to develop responses to any such modifications.

With regard to the other point raised in Ms. Keyer's Sept. 5 letter, SouthEast's arbitration petition raises the issues of rates for the loop and port components of the platform combination of elements (issues A-2 and A-3) – the same combination of elements for which the Commission established an interim rate in *SouthEast Tel., Inc., Complainant, v. BellSouth Tel., Inc., Defendant*, Case Nos. 2005-00519 and 2005-00533, *Order* at p.12 (Aug. 16, 2006). BellSouth's contention that this rate issue is not properly before the Commission in this proceeding is unfounded.

Beth O'Donnell  
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Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Sieradzki". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

David L. Sieradzki  
Counsel for SouthEast Telephone, Inc.

cc: Amy E. Dougherty  
Mary K. Keyer  
Andrew D. Shore  
Darrell Maynard